

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT  
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: NIH The Animal Building Bldg. 9 Survey No. :M- 35-9-4

Project: Expansion of Building 10 Agency: F/NIH

Visit by MHT Staff: X no    yes Name                      Date                     

Eligibility recommended        Eligibility not recommended X

Criteria: A    B    C    D Considerations:    A    B    C    D    E    F    G    None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

Building 9, located on the western edge of the NIH Historic Core, is a one story brick building. Occupied in 1943, space provided temporary housing for animals used in medical experiments. The building served this purpose 11 years and then was altered to accommodate a more permanent use such as administrative and lab space for various Institutes such as the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke. The plain appearance and use of the building contrast with the design of the classically styled Historic Core. As a minor support building, building is not distinguished. The Trust concurred the building was not eligible as an individual or contributing resource.

Documentation on the property/district is presented in: NIH Historic Resources Inventory Form

Prepared by: Robinson and Associates

Lauren Bowlin  
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

2/16/00  
Date

Program concurrence:    yes    no    not applicable

[Signature]  
Reviewer, NR program

8/23/00  
Date

Survey No. M-35-9 -4

## MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA - HISTORIC CONTEXT

### I. Geographic Region:

- ☐ Eastern Shore (all Eastern Shore counties, and Cecil)  
☐ Western Shore (Anne Arundel, Calvert, Charles, Prince George's and St. Mary's)  
☒ Piedmont (Baltimore City, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Harford, Howard, Montgomery)  
☐ Western Maryland (Allegany, Garrett and Washington)

### II. Chronological/Developmental Periods:

- ☐ Paleo-Indian 10000-7500 B.C.  
☐ Early Archaic 7500-6000 B.C.  
☐ Middle Archaic 6000-4000 B.C.  
☐ Late Archaic 4000-2000 B.C.  
☐ Early Woodland 2000-500 B.C.  
☐ Middle Woodland 500 B.C. - A.D. 900  
☐ Late Woodland/Archaic A.D. 900-1600  
☐ Contact and Settlement A.D. 1570-1750  
☐ Rural Agrarian Intensification A.D. 1680-1815  
☐ Agricultural-Industrial Transition A.D. 1815-1870  
☐ Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930  
☐ Modern Period A.D. 1930-Present  
☐ Unknown Period ( ☐ prehistoric ☐ historic)

### III. Prehistoric Period Themes:

- ☐ Subsistence  
☐ Settlement  
  
☐ Political  
☐ Demographic  
☐ Religion  
☐ Technology  
☐ Environmental Adaptation

### IV. Historic Period Themes:

- ☐ Agriculture  
☒ Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning  
☐ Economic (Commercial and Industrial)  
☐ Government/Law  
☐ Military  
☐ Religion  
☒ Social/Educational/Cultural  
☐ Transportation

### V. Resource Type:

Category: building  
Historic Environment: suburban  
Historic Function(s) and Use(s): medical research

Known Design Source: Architect of the Treasury

**NIH Historic Resources  
Inventory Form**

M: 35-9-4

**1. Name**

Historic Name Animal Building

Common Name and Building Number Building 9

**2. Location**

Street and Number 9000 Rockville Pike

City, Town Bethesda

Congressional District 8

State and Zip Code Maryland 20850

County Montgomery

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present use (Government)
<input type="checkbox"/> District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laboratory
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	<input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Animal Research
<input type="checkbox"/> Structure	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> Work in Progress	<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital
<input type="checkbox"/> Site	Accessible		<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
<input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: Restricted		<input type="checkbox"/> Support
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes: Unrestricted		<input type="checkbox"/> Other
	<input type="checkbox"/> No		

**4. Owner of Property**

Name National Institutes of Health

Street & Number 9000 Rockville Pike

Telephone No. : 301/496-5037

City, Town Bethesda

State and Zip Code Maryland 20892

**5. Location of Legal Description**

Courthouse, Registry of Deeds, etc. Montgomery County Courthouse

Liber# \_\_\_\_\_ Folio# \_\_\_\_\_

Street & Number

City, Town Bethesda

State and Zip Code Maryland 20850

**6. Representation in Existing Historic Survey**

☒ Yes ☐ No

Title NIH Master Plan, Phase 1; Task 5, Part II: Cultural Asset Inventory

Date September 17, 1985

☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

Depository for Survey Records

City, Town

State and Zip

## 7. Description

### Condition

☒ Excellent  
☐ Good  
☐ Fair

☐ Deteriorated  
☐ Ruins  
☐ Unexposed

☐ Unaltered  
☒ Altered

☒ Original Site  
☐ Moved

### Overview

Building 9 was erected in 1943 to house animals used in the research activities at NIH. It is located at the western edge of the proposed NIH Historic Core, bordered by Memorial Road to the east and Lincoln Drive to the south. Building 7 (Memorial Laboratory) is located directly north of Building 9 and Building 5 is located directly to the east.

### Description

Building 9 is a one-story brick building with a raised basement. It measures 200' x 150' and is U-shaped in plan. The design of the building is strictly utilitarian; only the red face brick makes a sympathetic gesture to the Georgian Revival-style design aesthetic that was established during the 1930s at NIH.

The structural system is composed of masonry-bearing walls and reinforced concrete floor slabs, and the foundations are poured concrete. The flat composition roof is supported by wooden roof trusses.

The miscellaneous entrances to the building do not give it a distinctive orientation. The fenestration, too, is random. Some of the 8-over-8, double-hung windows are set into brick segmental arches and have wooden enframements and pre-cast concrete sills. Other 8-over-8 windows, set into long rows, have larger dimensions and metal enframements. Some of the windows have been bricked in and altered.

The interior of Building 9 was not accessible for survey. Oral interviews indicate that the interior has been extensively modified over time to accommodate changing functions. During these alterations, most of the original features of the building appear to have been replaced and/or obscured.

M:35-9-4

**8. Significance**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Areas of Significance</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Archeology-Prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Planning	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> Archeology-Historic	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Economics	<input type="checkbox"/> Literature	<input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanit
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> Art	<input type="checkbox"/> Engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> Music	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> Exploration/Settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> Philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> Communications	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Politics/Government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> Invention		

<b>Specific Dates</b>	<b>Architect</b>				<b>Builder</b>	<b>Area</b>
Applicable Criteria:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D		
Applicable Exception	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> C	<input type="checkbox"/> D	<input type="checkbox"/> E	<input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G
Level of Significance	<input type="checkbox"/> National		<input type="checkbox"/> State		<input type="checkbox"/> Local	

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

### Overview

Building 9 was originally erected to provide temporary space for the care and breeding of animals used in the NIH laboratory experiments. Proposed in early 1942, Building 9 was completed in January 1943. It operated as an animal facility for eleven years, after which time it was altered extensively, to make the building a permanent one and to accommodate offices and research functions. It has served a variety of functions over the decades and currently houses research laboratories for the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, the National Eye Institute, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

### The Design and Siting of Building 9

Building 9 was designed by the Supervising Architect of the Public Buildings Administration as a simple brick building, temporary in nature. It was to consist of a single story and basement, sited low in the topography of the NIH campus, with a smokestack that would not be visible from the front of the property.<sup>1</sup>

The site suggested for the building was located only 30 feet from the property line of the George Freeland Peter Estate and immediately to the southwest of the cluster of buildings in the main administrative core. At that time, in 1942, the Peter Estate was still in private hands; the government did not acquire the Peter property until 1949.<sup>2</sup> The location for Building 9 was carefully chosen for its proximity to two related buildings. It was sited adjacent to Building 5, to enable the transportation of animals between the two buildings in any weather. Building 5 was constructed in 1941 for the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, one of the final buildings in the original administration complex at the heart of the NIH campus. The building site for Building 9 was also chosen to avoid the demolition of the nearby Monkey House, a wood-frame building that housed a reserve store of monkeys, a function that the proposed Building 9 was not equipped to handle. The Monkey House had recently been erected by "station labor," since due to "certain religious requirement in India, shipments can only be obtained at certain seasons of the year."<sup>3</sup>

Building 9 was not received favorably by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission (NCPC). NCPC criticized both the design and the location, feeling that the shape of the building could be modified to better fit the site and that it should not be sited so close to the George Freeland Peter Estate property line. For the improvement of the design, the Commission suggested "stretching the building out," to separate the wings of the U-shaped building by a longer connecting corridor.<sup>4</sup> It

---

<sup>1</sup>Extract from the minutes of the 174th meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission held on July 16-17, 1942.

<sup>2</sup>See the National Institutes of Health Historic Resources Inventory Form for the George Freeland Peter Estate (Buildings 16 and 16A), Robinson & Associates, Inc., November 17, 1995.

<sup>3</sup>Letter from Warren F. Draper to the Commission of Public Buildings, dated July 21, 1942.

<sup>4</sup>Undated, handwritten internal memorandum from the Commission's Thomas Jeffers, landscape architect, to member Mr. Nolen. Part of the 1942 correspondence in the NCPC Records, National Archives and Records

does not appear that these suggestions were incorporated into the design of the building as built. As regards the siting, in a letter dated July 21, 1942, Warren Draper, the Acting Surgeon General, made a plea to the review body to allow the building to be erected at the originally selected location. He argued that siting Building 9 at another location would cause the loss of the Monkey House. He further explained that the character of the topography was such that the discussion of a greater distance from the Peter property line was not significant.<sup>5</sup> Draper's argument was supported by then-Supervising Architect of the Treasury, George Howe. Howe noted in a letter to Frederic Delano, the chairman of the NCPD, that, "A visit to the site confirms my opinion that the construction of the building in its proposed location would not be detrimental to the interests of the adjoining property owners by reason of the topography and the existence of trees, shrubs, etc."<sup>6</sup> The Surgeon's General's office appears to have successfully conveyed the urgency that accompanied plans for this building, as the National Capital Park and Planning Commission ultimately approved the site and the design. The motion was unanimously carried that the original plan be approved.<sup>7</sup>

#### The Use of Building 9

As previously stated, Building 9 was originally designed to be a temporary structure. It was known as "T-10" (the "T" denoting "temporary") until 1954. At that time, the building underwent a major renovation and alteration effort to accommodate more permanent office and research functions, and the numbering system for the building (and several others) was changed. Its new designation, Building 9, was the number previously used to denote the Officers' Quarters; the Officers' Quarters then were assigned the number (15) that used to refer to the Convent.<sup>8</sup>

No other information has been located on details of the use of Building 9 as a structure for animal breeding and care, possibly due to its utilitarian function. Currently, Building 9 houses the research laboratories for the National Institute of Neurological Diseases and Stroke, the National Eye Institute, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

---

#### Administration.

<sup>5</sup>Letter from Warren F. Draper to the Commission of Public Buildings, dated July 21, 1942.

<sup>6</sup>Letter from George Howe to Frederic Delano, dated July 24, 1942.

<sup>7</sup>Extract from the minutes of the 175th meeting of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, held on August 13-14, 1942. National Archives and Records Administration.

<sup>8</sup>W.H. Sebrell, Jr., M.D., Director, National Institutes of Health, to Mr. Peter A. Strobel, Commissioner of the Public Buildings Service, November 17, 1954. National Archives and Records Administration.

---

**9. Major Bibliographical References**

---

M:35-9-4

SEE CONTINUATION SHEETS

---

**10. Geographical Data**

---

**Verbal Boundary Description**

The proposed boundaries of the site are defined by Memorial Road to the east, Lincoln Drive to the south, the west edge of Building 9, and the service road which separates Building 9 from Building 7 to the north.

---

**11. Determination of Eligibility to be Included into the National Register**

---

☐ Eligible☒ Not Eligible

Building 9 was erected to provide temporary quarters for the care and breeding of animals used in the NIH laboratory experiments. Completed in 1943, Building 9 was operated as an animal facility for eleven years, after which time it was altered to become a more permanent facility, accommodating offices and research functions.

Building 9 was not included in the proposed "NIH Administration Complex" historic district due to its lack of architectural significance and its strictly utilitarian role in the mission of NIH. Although it was constructed shortly after the completion of the original administrative quadrangle (Building 5 was finished in 1941), it was not part of the same early Congressional appropriations that funded the Administration Complex. Building 9 was also intended as a temporary building; its design did not fit the cohesive three-and-a-half-story Georgian Revival style model that had been established in the main administration buildings. It is a relatively minor support structure, and when evaluated against the criteria for a National Register property, is found to have no unique architectural features. Additionally, the building has been altered over time in efforts to adapt it to diverse, more permanent uses.

Due to its lack of demonstrated historical and/or architectural significance, Building 9 has been determined "Not Eligible" for listing in the National Register.

---

**12. Form Prepared by**

---

Name/Title Regina L. Arlotto and Judith H. Robinson, Architectural Historians

Organization Robinson & Associates, Inc.

Date February 23, 1997

Street & Number 1909 Q Street, NW Suite 300

Telephone 202/234-2333

City or Town Washington

State District of Columbia, 20009

Approved by the NIH Federal Preservation Officer

Concurrence of State Preservation Officer

---



Bibliography

Furman, Bess. *A Profile of the United States Public Health Service*. DHEW Publication No. 73-369.

Harden, Victoria A. *Inventing the NIH*. Baltimore and London: Johns Hopkins University Press. n.d.

Kohl, George S., Editor. *American Architects Directory*, Second Edition. New York: R.R Bowker Company, 1962.

Kramer, Victor H. *The National Institute of Health: A Study in Public Administration*, 1937.

National Archives.

Records of the Public Buildings Service. Record Group 121. General Correspondence and Related Records for NIH, 1934-1939.

Records of the Public Buildings Service. Record Group 121. General Correspondence and Related Records, Bethesda, MD, 1934-1939.

Records of the Public Health Service. Record Group 90. General Files, 1924-1935.

Records of the Public Health Service. Record Group 90. General Records, General Subject File, 1924-1935.

Records of the Public Health Service. Record Group 90. General Classified Records, Group IX, 1936-1944.

Records of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Record Group 328. 1924-1961. Compiled by Dorothy Provine.

National Institutes of Health. *Buildings and Grounds Manual*, Bethesda, MD, 1959.

National Institutes of Health, Division of Public Information. *1994 NIH Almanac* (NIH Publication No. 94-5), Bethesda, MD, 1994.

National Institutes of Health. "NIH--A Quarter of a Century," *NIH Record*, Vol. VIII, No. 10, May 31, 1955.

National Institutes of Health. Design and Engineering Section, construction drawings of the NIH.

National Library of Medicine, photo collection of the National Institutes of Health.

Pugh, Dorothy. "The National Institutes of Health," excerpted from *The Montgomery County Story*. Rockville, MD: Montgomery County Historical Society, 1987.

Robinson & Associates, Inc. (dba Tracerics) with Dalton Dalton Newport. "The NIH Master Plan, Phase I, Task 5, Part II, Cultural Asset Inventory, Architectural Significance." Cleveland, Ohio: September 1985.

Roth, Leland M. *A Concise History of American Architecture*. New York: Harper and Row, 1980.

Scott, Pamela and Antoinette J. Lee. *Buildings of the District of Columbia*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1993.

Short, C.W. and R. Stanley Brown. *Public Buildings: Architecture Under the Public Works Administration*. Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1939.

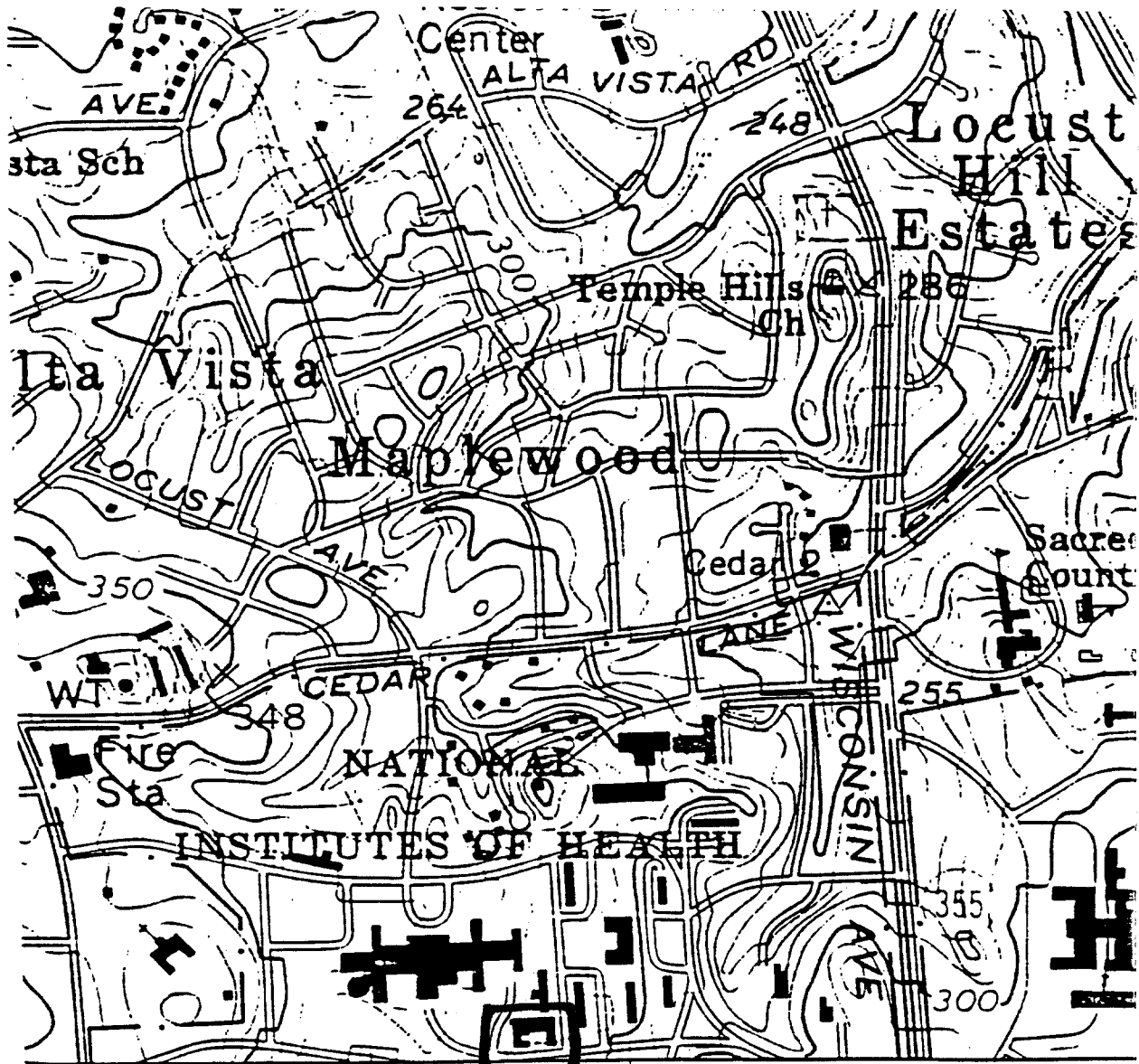
Stetten, DeWitt, Jr. and W.T. Carrigan, Editors. *NIH: An Account of Research in its Laboratories and Clinics*. Orlando: Academic Press, 1984.

Topping, Norman. *Recollections*. Los Angeles: University of Southern California Press, 1990.

Withey, Henry F. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects*. Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970.

M:35-9-4

National Institutes of Health  
Historic Resources Inventory Form  
Animal Building: Building 9  
Robinson & Associates, Inc.



Site Plan  
Animal Building  
Building 9  
National Institutes of Health  
Montgomery County, MD  
USGS Map Kensington Quadrangle  
1:240000 Photorevised 1979

M: 35-9-4

NIH Historic Resources Inventory Form  
Building 9  
Robinson & Associates



**Figure 1.**

Building 9  
National Institutes of Health  
Montgomery County, Maryland  
Regina L. Arlotto, November 1995  
Negative at MD SHPO  
View of East Facade, Looking Northwest

M: 35-9-4

NIH Historic Resources Inventory Form  
Building 9  
Robinson & Associates

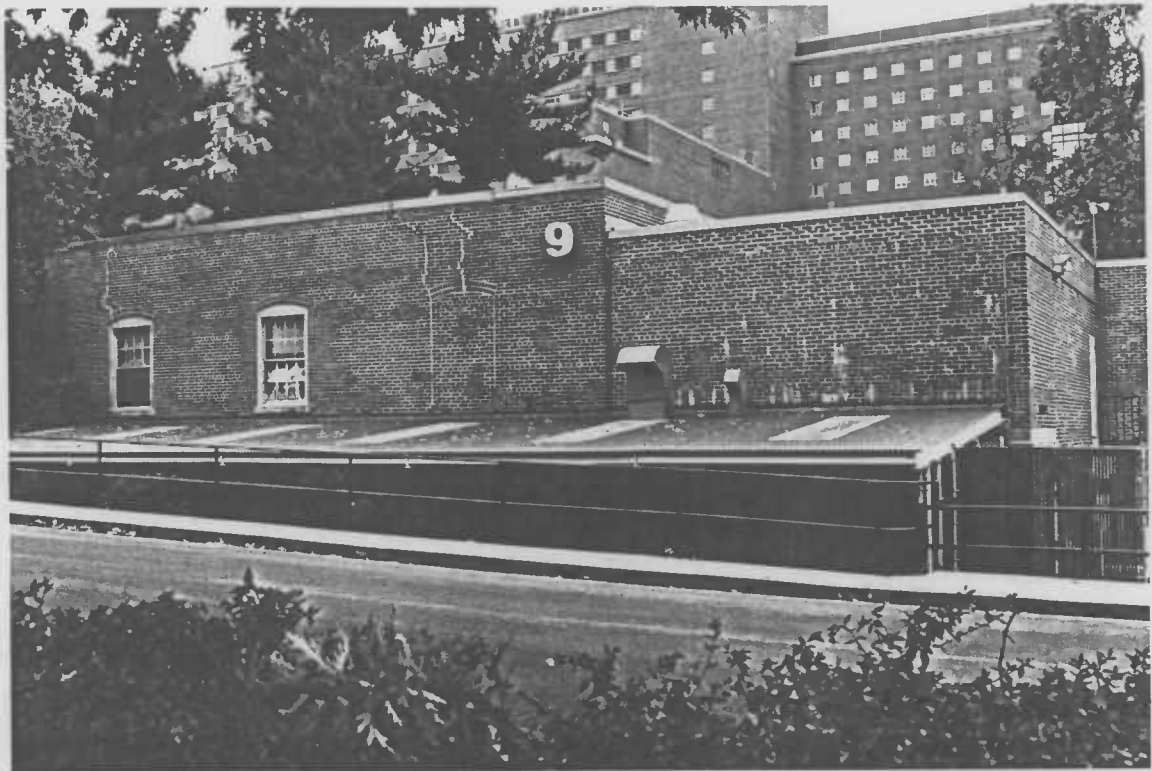


**Figure 2.**

Building 9  
National Institutes of Health  
Montgomery County, Maryland  
Regina L. Arlotto, November 1995  
Negative at MD SHPO  
Partial View of East and South Facades

M: 35-9-4

NIH Historic Resources Inventory Form  
Building 9  
Robinson & Associates



**Figure 3.**

Building 9  
National Institutes of Health  
Montgomery County, Maryland  
Regina L. Arlotto, November 1995  
Negative at MD SHPO  
View of West Wing, South Facade.

M: 35-9-4

*NIH Historic Resources Inventory Form*  
*Building 9*  
*Robinson & Associates*



**Figure 4.**

Building 9  
National Institutes of Health  
Montgomery County, Maryland  
Regina L. Arlotto, November 1995  
Negative at MD SHPO  
Partial View of West Facade, Looking Northeast.